Political—1930

Women in:

Connecticut

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.
TIMES-STAR

OCT 1 1 1930
COLORED G. O. P. WOMEN

There will be a meeting of the "Colored Women's Republican State League," Sunday afternoon, at 4:30 p. m., at the Colored Voters' Republican Club, 72 Beardsley St. Speakers on the program will be Mrs. H. W. Fleck, vice-chairman of town committee; Mrs. Eloise Day, vice-chairman of the 19th ward of New Haven, William Hatchett, president of the Colored Voters' Republican club, Lucius J. Jordan, vice chairman of the Second district and others.

D.C.

Politics—1930

Women in.

REPUBLICAN WHITE WOMEN EXCLUDE COLORED WOMEN

Hold Political School and Plan A Separate One For Negroes

Washington

Colored women were excluded here from the Women's Political School by the District of Columbia League of Republican Women at the Willard Hotel last week.

This is the fourth school held by the women's organization, and it is the first at which colored women were not only allowed to take part, but were actively sought and welcomed. 5-2-30

The colored women will hold a separate class at a later date, applicants were told by Mrs. Virginia White Speel, National committeewoman for the District of Columbia, who indicated that the colored women themselves were satisfied with the arrangement and had even requested it. Washington

Miss Nannie Burroughs, member of the State Central Committee and president of the National League of Colored Republican Women, stated Friday that she was unaware of any request for a separate school or of the acquiescence in such an arrangement by any of the colored women.

"I am bitterly, violently and unalterably opposed to this treatment of our women," Miss Burroughs said.—(C.N.S.)

Politics-1930

Women in.

General

Ten Years of Woman's Suffrage

By KELLY MILLER

AUGUST 26 marked the tenth anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution. On that date a compendium of opinions was issued touching the effectiveness of this suffrage reform. The same view, perhaps, was expressed by Dr. W. A. Neilson, president of Smith College: "It is a commonplace that no great political change accomplishes all the evils its opponents predicted or all the good its supporters hoped for."

Woman's suffrage has not destroyed the fabric of society. Elbert Hubbard used to say that most men are disappointed with marriage because they expected to get more out of it than there is in it. It is ever thus with any social process of great expectancy. Prophecy is optimistic; fulfillment is too often disappointing.

The right of suffrage never gives the recipient equal weight in governmental affairs, unless this equality is based upon essential reality. Man, either by reason of his long experience and discipline in social and political control or by sheer force of masculine endowment, is at present woman's superior in political capacity. Although the female sex has been accorded equal suffrage rights, yet, after ten years' experience, the gentler half of our citizenry has impressed no practical influence upon the governmental equation. Few women have attained high political station; none has great political renown. It is true that this noble experiment has not been long enough in operation to be vindicated in the light of experience, yet there are certain obvious indications of the remoter outcome.

I suppose that quite as many women as men voted for President Hoover in the last election, yet he has not seen the wisdom, nor has he been forced by feminine clamor, to elevate a single woman to a capital position under the government. Several women have been elected to Congress and have served their constituents creditably. But no great measure of legislation has been sponsored and pushed through by their advocacy.

Mrs. Mabel Willebrandt was made Assistant Attorney General and put in charge of the most important function of that portfolio, but her too intemperate zeal for temperance brought about her displacement. It is unfortunately true of all minor and weaker groups that the responsibility of the failure of one must be shared by all. There have been two women governors of States, both of whom were succeeded by men. An eminent woman, the wife of a deceased senator, is a very promising candidate for a seat in the Senate. It is not without significance that in almost every case where women aspire to seats in either branch of Congress, it is to take the place of husband or father who paved the way for relative female succession.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, wife of the governor of New York, states that women have made a contribution to better government, and that wherever they have participated in local politics general conditions have improved. This is undoubtedly true in strictly local and limited matters, but not on a large scale. New York City has more women than men; yet Tammany rules, and Tammany is widely accused as being corrupt.

When women were admitted to the franchise, it was supposed that they would speedily put an end to characteristic masculine vices in public affairs. It was hoped and expected that the solid suffrage of the sex would be cast against intemperance, drunkenness, gambling grafting and other sundry forms of corruption ascribable to the weakness of the masculine disposition But here again we have been sadly disappointed. The Eastern States where women are relatively most numerous, are the wettest. Our Western States, where they are least abundant, are the dryest. New York and Chicago speak with deafening loudness as to the inefficacy of woman's suffrage to purify municipal politics.

These things cannot be denied nor decried by overzealous proponents of female suffrage, but must be frankly faced and overcome if they would hope in a reasonable time to fulfil the promise and vindicate the expectations of the noble experiment.

On the other side of the equation, women have had put in their hands the weapon by which they may secure their just dues from indifferent or unwilling men. The overbearing sex has borne sovereignty over its weaker counterpart for so long a time that lordly man feels that this woman which God gave him is entitled to only such rights and privileges as he may condescend to bestow upon her. The comparative failure of woman suffrage, after ten years of experiment, is due mainly to the fact that woman has felt satisfied that the function of the ballot was to make her equal to man. instead of being an instrument to make her equal to her best self.

The First Ten Years of Woman's Suffrage

Afro-American

Woman's Suffrage Has Neither Destroyed the Fabric of Society nor Has It Ushered in the Millennium. 8-30-30

By KELLY MILLER

August 26 marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution. On that date a compedium of opinions was issued touching the probable effectiveness of this suffrage reform. The same view, perhaps, was expressed by many as was expressed by Dr. W. A. Neilson, president of Smith College. He said "It is a commonplace that no great political change accomplishes all the evils its opponents predicted or all the good its supporters hoped for."

Woman's suffrage has neither destroyed the fabric of society nor has it ushered in the millenium. Elbert Hubbard used to say, that most men are disappointed with marriage because they expected to get more out of it than there is in it. It is ever thus with any social process of great expectancy. Prophecy is optimistic; fulfillment is too often disappointing. Baltimore Md

The right of suffrage never gives the recipient equal weight in governmental affairs unless this equality is based upon essential reality. Man, either by reason of his long experience and discipline in social and political control or by sheer force of masculine endowment is at present woman's admitted superior in political capacity.

Although the female sex has been accorded equal suffrage rights, yet, after ten years' experience, the gentler half of our citizenry has impressed no practical influence upon the governmental equation. Few women have attained high political station, and none great political renown.

It is true that this noble experiment has not been long enough in operation to be vindicated in the light of experience, yet there are certain obvious indications of the remoter outcome.

No Woman Given a Capital Appointment.

I suppose that quite as many women as men voted for President Hoover in the last election, yet he has not seen the wisdom, nor has he been forced by feminine clamor, to elevate a single woman to a capital position under the government. Several women have been elected to Congress and have served their constituents creditably. But no great measure of legislation has been sponsored and pushed through by their advocacy. Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt was made Assistant Attorney General and put in charge of the most important function of that portfolio; but her too intemperate zeal for temperance brought about her masculine displacement. It is unfortunately true of all minor and weaker groups, that the responsibility of the failure of one must be shared by all. There have been two women governors of states, both of whom were succeeded by men. An eminent woman, the wife of a deceased Senator, is a very promising candidate for a seat in the Senate. It is not without significance that in almost every case where women aspire to seats in either branch of Congress it is to take the place of husband or father who paved the way for relative female succession.

Women Have Bettered Local Conditions Only.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, wife of the governor of New York, states that women have made a contribution to better government, and that wherever they have participated in local politics, general conditions have improved. This is undoubtedly true in strictly local and limited matters, but not on a large statal or national scale.

When women were admitted to the franchise, it was supposed that they would speedily put an end to characteristic masculine vices in public affairs. It was hoped and expected that the solid suffrage of the sex would be cast against intemperance, drunkenness, gambling, grafting and other sundry forms of corruption ascribable to the weakness of the masculine disposition.

But here again we have been sadly disappointed. The Eastern States where women are relatively most numerous, are the wettest. Our Western States where they are least abundant are the dryest. New York and Chicago speak with deafening loudness as to the inefficacy of woman's suffrage to purify muncipal politics.

The Ballot a Weapon to Secure Just Dues.

On the other side of the equation, women have had put into their hands the weapon by which they may secure their just dues from indifferent or unwilling men. The overbearing sex has borne sovereignty over its weaker counterpart for so long a time that lordly man feels that this woman which God gave him is entitled to only such rights and privileges as he may condescend to bestow upon her.

The comparative failure of woman suffrage, after ten years of experiment, is due mainly to the fact that she has felt satisfied that the function of the ballot was to make her equal to man, instead of being an instrument to make her equal to her best self.

Colored Women Show Little Interest in Politics

Afro-American

Important Potential Strength Being Neglected by the Republican Leaders. 10-18-30

By KELLY MILLER

The Fifteenth Amendment eliminated race and the Nineteenth Amendment eliminated sex from the franchise. Indeed, women constitute a more stable factor than men in the political equation. According to the Fourteenth Amendment, the male may lose his representative capacity if his state cares to disqualify him by imposing restriction on male suffrage. But the female's representative capacity is not reducible by any such limitations.

Herein lies an interesting point in political science which will probably never be settled.

Several weeks ago, I issued a release on the effect of the Nineteenth Amendment on woman's participation in government, in general. It was there shown that the results had fallen far below expectation as to woman's participation in politics. When we limit the application to colored women, the results are still more disappointing. Baltimore Md.

Female Suffrage Greater Asset Than Male.

The colored women as a whole, have shown little or no active interest. At election time, a few of the more ambitious ones have attempted to arouse their sex as to the use of the ballot in the immediate campaign. But there has been no comprehensive movement to realize the practical value of the franchise either to the sex or to the race.

Colored female suffrage is a greater potential political asset to the race than is that of the colored male. There are more colored women of voting age in the states where suffrage is unrestricted. This numerical supremacy is found throughout the Northern states with a heavy Negro population.

The colored woman gains a greater relative advantage than her white sister from the Nineteenth Amendment. Every colored woman over twenty-one years of age is given the right to vote, but several millions of white women are excluded from this privilege by virtue of their foreign birth.

Colored Women Won't Split Votes.

The enfranchisement of colored women is of tremendous significance to the Republican party, if it only had the sagacity to take advantage of it. Practically speaking, every colored woman is a Republican. There is no such thing as a splitting of this vote between the two parties.

Several reasons promote this conclusion. Woman is the creature of tradition. She breaks loose slowly from the ancient landmark. Her natural conservatism will hold her to the party of Lincoln and Sumner, long after the more restless male has champed under the bit and broken away from his hitching post.

The woman has never come into direct contact with Republican politicians, nor has she gained by bitter experience, first hand knowledge of their chicanery, duplicity and deceit. She has not felt the sting of disappointment over unfulfilled promise for official recognition. A Negro man may be a Democrat; but a Negro woman, hardly.

Political Questions Have No Appeal.

The Negro man has little interest in the science of government, as such. Tariff, internal revenue, international relations and fiscal policies move him but feebly. To the women of the race they hardly appeal at all. The issues must be interpreted to them in more immediate terms before they can be aroused.

There is almost insuperable indifferentism to get them to register or to vote. I suppose that hardly one colored woman in ten either registered or voted throughout the North in the last Presidential election. I hardly apprehend that the case will be much different in the present fall election.

There is absolutely no issue about which colored women are easily aroused as a rallying point. The animosities against the pro-Parker Senators hold no keen edge of revenge. The reasoning involved is too round about and remote.

The record of the Hoover administration means less to them than to the colored men. Even the traditional unfriendliness of the Democrats in the South can hardly scare the colored women of New York or Boston, where Democrat and Republican are both alike to them. And so, the matter will drag along.

The Prohibition Issue Will Arouse Women.

The Grand Old Party may expect little aid from this new element in politics until or unless it strikes a new and responsive chord. Needless for me to say that this note will be prohibition, in the Presidential campaign of 1932. Every colored woman can easily understand the meaning of this issue as it affects her own father, husband, son, brother or sweetheart.

Political - 1930

Women in.

Illinois.

N. Y. TIMES

FEB 8 1930

Negro Woman Out for Legislature.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7 (AP).—The first woman of her race to seek a seat in the Illinois Legislature, Mrs. George Jones Ellis, a negro, has filed her petition for the Republican nomination for the House from the Hyde Park district of Chicago. The primary will be held in April. Mrs. Ellis is a lawyer.

BRONX HOME NEWS

FEB 8 1930

Colored Woman Seeks Legislative Post

The first woman of her race to seek a seat in the Illinois Legislature, Mrs. George Jones Ellis, colored, has filed her petition for the Republican nomination for the House from the Hyde Park district of Chicago. The primary will be held in April. Mrs. Ellis is a practising attorney.

Political - 1930

Women in.

Courier

EVANSVILLE

INDIANA

OCT 14 1930

COLORED WOMEN OPEN DEMO CLUE

A West Side Colored Women's Democratic club was organized last night at the home of Mrs. Hettie Thompkins, 612 Twelfth avenue. Mrs Christine Forte of the Seventh ward who has been organizing the clubs in the city, presided at the opening meeting.

Officers elected were Mrs. Thompkins, president; Mrs. Marie Jackson secretary; Bertha Boyd, assistant secretary; Miss Henrietta Jackson treasurer; Mrs. Ida Bennet, Mrs. Martin, general advisers. Adrian Bell, secretary, and Herbert Goins, chairman of the Seventh ward organization, were the principal speakers. The club will meet each Monday night at 602 North Twelfth avenue, with mass meetings Tuesday and Friday night at headquarters on Walnut street near Garvin.

Goins declared the issue of this campaign was "good government."

Journal

EVANSVILLE

INDIANA

OCT 17 1930

Colored Women Organize

A colored women's democratic club was formed Thursday in the second precinct of the seventh ward at the home of Mrs. Mattie Potts, 500 Southeast Tenth street.

A democratic club of colored women of the North Side was formed at the home of Mrs. Bertha Dulin, 643 East Missouri street. Herbert Goins was the speaker.

Politics - 1930

Maryland

Women in.

Leaders Admit That Women Have Not Used Ballot Wisely

Afro-American

Lack of Understanding, Failure of Church and Other Organizations to Instruct in Exercise of Franchise Blamed for Inability to Take Advantage of Ballot

8-30-30

Baltimore Md

With the observance of the tenth anniversary of woman's suffrage, Baltimoreans have expressed the opinion that the women of the race are not taking full advantage of their right to vote, in interviews given to an AFRO reporter this week.

Reasons for this lack of interest are expressed by three people active in public life who were picked at random. Blame was laid on several causes including the church, economic conditions, and the influence of men.

Not Awakened

J. Howard Payne, candidate for the State Legislature:

"The women who are active in politics are doing an unusual amount of thinking and are doing much to elevate mankind in general. As evidence that they are thinkers, in one of their recent conventions, they proposed a resolution that efforts be made by the women voters to have another amendment to the Constitution providing for equal rights for women in every respect.

"As a general rule, however, the colored women do not seem to have awakened to the possibilities that are their in the use of the ballot.

"In as much as Moses was the first law-giver it would not be out of place for the church to instruct its members, by means of of special programs, in the laws of popular government. It should be stressed that politics is nothing more than the voters having a voice in the making of the laws that govern their every day conduct.

"The laws are made in the State Legislature or in the United States Congress, and in their final analysis predicate upon the ten commandments and the Sermon on the Mount."

Understanding Needed

Mrs. Veola G. Coleman, chairman of the Fourth Ward Co-operative Civic League:

"I feel that women do not take the proper advantage of the ballot because they do not understand it. Many do not have the opportunity to attend meetings where they might be instructed because of economic pressure. Others do not understand it because they stay at home and do not get the necessary contacts. Consequently, they do not know why they should vote.

Lectures Given

"Women who understand the bal lot, when talking with those less in formed, should direct their conver sations to the power of the ballot s the women will get the idea.

"The Women's Civic League an several other organizations have pro grams during the year for the pur pose of instructing women. Lectur ers covering practical questions, an discussions are indulged in, but i women stay at home and fail to at tend the places of instruction, the will fail to take their proper place."

Rely on Men Too Much

Miss Alene Griggs, Girl Reserve Secretary of the Y.W.C.A.:

"Woman's influence in the use c the ballot would be extended if sh would learn to exercise a greater in dependence in casting a vote. To many women rely upon the advce c their husbands or relatives.

"Women should study the poli cies of all the parties, and the chai acteristics of the individual candi dates. If this were done, they woul be able to vote intelligently witho depending on any one.

"They will not be able to wield th power they should, until they becon independent by studying politics, an then voting according to their con victions."

Political - 1930

Women in.

New Jersey

COURIER-NEWS
PLAINFIELD, N. J.

DEC 9 1930

Women Voters Hear Speeches

At an educational mass meeting given by the League of Colored Women Voters, held at the Moorland Branch Y. M. C. A. Forum Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Bessie Beardon, president of the New York League of Women Voters and a member of the New York Board of Education, and Miss Josephine Wooten, teacher and chairman of the Child Welfare Committee of New York, were the principal speakers.

Dr. J. H. N. Jones, a member of the Board of Health in New York, spoke on his work with the children of that city.

An offering for the benefit of the unemployed was presented to the Y. M. C. A. by the organization.

Mrs. Frederick Durrah, president of the L. C. W. V., presided. A group of girls from the New Voters League of Summit entertained

TRENTON, N. J.

Times

NOV 19 1930

COLORED WOMEN MEET AND TALK POLITICS

Members of the Douglas Colored Women's Republican Club discussed plans for future activities at a meeting at the home of Mrs. Agnes L. Kemp, 31 Montgomery Place, president of the club. Mrs. Kemp has extended an invitation to Mrs. O. D. Oliphant, deputy county clerk, to talk at their next meeting on "The American Flag."